Gap between the demand and supply of power in NER

4441. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any effective measures to bridge the estimated gap between demand and supply of power in the country particularly in North-Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State is in the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. The Central Government has a complementary role in adding generation capacity in the Central Sector through Central Public Sector Undertakings. During 2004-5, while the energy shortage in the country was 7.3%, it was 6.3% in the North-Eastern Region.

The following steps are being taken to bridge the gap between demand and supply of power in the country including North Eastern Region:

(i) A capacity addition of 41,110 MW has been targeted for 10th Five Year Plan consisting of 22,832 MW in Central Sector, 11,157 in State Sector and 7,121 MW in Private Sector, out of which 1018 MW consisting of 585 MW in Central Sector and 433 MW in State Sector is programmed for North Eastern Region.

(ii) Early stabilization of newly commissioned units.

(iii) Creation of a robust National Grid for optimum utilization of generation capacity and inter-regional transmission of power.

(iv) To bring about reforms in distribution, Government of India has implemented the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for up-gradation of sub-transmission and distribution system in States as a major step towards reduction of aggregate transmission and commercial losses and attaining commercial viability of the power sector. Funds are being provided to States for undertaking schemes for sub-transmission and distribution systems under the APDRP. Under APDRP, North

Eastern Region States have been kept under special category by which these States are eligible for 90% grant and 10% soft loan.

(v) Demand side management, energy efficiency and conservation measures.

(vi) Providing interest subsidy on loans by the Power finance Corporation for renovation and modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generating units.

(vii) Exploitation of hydro potential at a faster pace.

(d) With the addition of 41,110 MW capacity addition during 10th Plan the energy and peak shortage are likely to be of the order 5.7% and 9% as compared to 7.3% and 11.7% in 2004-05 respectively in the country. The North Eastern Region is expected to be surplus by 8.5% in energy and 12.8% in peak availability.

Reduction in APM gas supply to power utilities

4442. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether GAIL has imposed any reduction in Administered Pricing Mechanism Gas supply to the power utilities;

(b) if so, the details of the same and its impact on power availability;

(c) whether there is a proposal of significant gas price hike of Panna-Mukta and Tapti; if so, the details of the same and its impact on cost of power; and

(d) the action by Government to ensure availability of power without a price hike?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There has been reduction in Administered Price Mechanism (APM) gas supply to National Thermal Power Corporation's (NTPC) stations along Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) pipeline by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL).

The APM gas supplies to NTPC stations has been reduced by 2.17 MMSCMD against previous year's (i.e. 2004-05) supply. The resulting shortfall in gas-based generation has been augemented by NTPC by liquid fuel (naphtha, HSD) based generation.